some such process as drowning or falling from an aeroplane ; the astounding memory-feats of some such persons as the famous calculating boys, whose strange power is apt to leave them almost suddenly; the strange varieties and complexities of the functional amnesias (spontaneous and hypnotically induced) in which every kind and combination of memory defect seems to be produced by purely psychical causes, with a selectivity impossible to reconcile with the hypothesis of memory founded in cerebral structure.

Yet the authors of this group have a very strong case in identifying racial with individual memory, or rather in regarding the instinctive endowments of men and animals as essentially of the same order as individual memory. Here the Lamarckian theory of transmission of acquired qualities and functions is of central importance.

It is, as I have said, accepted and ardently defended by all three authors of the mnemic group, each of whom attempts to devise his materialistic hypothesis of the engram in such a way that the germ-plasm may be supposed to reduce in some degree the engrams of the brain. The Lamarckian theory has been repudiated by many, probably a large majority of, biologists just because it seems to be incompatible with a materialistic theory of memory and other features of the mechanical biology. Yet there exists a large amount of evidence that points to its truth, both experimental and palaeontological.

Here it is in order to refer to my own experiment on this problem; perhaps the only well-devised

experiment
hitherto carried through. It is now in its eighteenth
year, and has dealt with forty-nine successive generations
of rats, all of which have been trained to the execution
of the same task by a long course of effort, of repeated